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Friss Ujsag.

GREATER BUDAPEST TO INCREASE BUILDING PROGRAM

In the session of the Budapest City Council, held on 13 September, Kalman Pongracz, president of the Executive Committee, gave a report on the plans for development of the city.

The peripheral towns are to be consolidated with Greater Budapest during the current Five-Year Plan. In 1950, the amount of investments was increased from the 205 million forints originally budgeted to 309 million forints. The increase will be used primarily for the construction of new dwellings, for the development of cultural institutions and of new parks, and for road repair work.

During the short period of 3 months since the creation of the City Council, 741 dwellings have been built. The streetcar and autobus system of the city has not kept pace with demand, despite the fact that it provided transportation to twice as many passengers as in 1938. This year the number of passengers is expected to total 620 million on the streetcars and 85 million on busses, compared with 304 million and 42 million, respectively, in 1938.

The 1951 city plan lays particular emphasis on the construction of the underground railroad. To provide year-round employment in the building industries, considerable building construction will be carried out during the winter months. Removal of rubble along the main streets will be completed and serious attention will be given to the improvement of streetcar and bus service in Ujpest, Kcbanya, Obuda, and the southern city districts.

The ten-year plan of Budapest has been completed. The plan provides for the construction of new residential areas and for the rebuilding of antiquated city districts, with special regard to the changes which the planned rapid-transit system is expected to produce.

The city is planning to build factories for the production of gas stoves, refrigerators, and electrical appliances. Plans have also been made to improve food distribution and to provide Budapest with more fruits and vegetables. Food-distribution stations are to be established in Csepel and Obuda. Arrangements have been made to transfer food and hotel enterprises from the jurisdiction of the Minister of Domestic Trade to that of the city.

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Teaching of Russian will be introduced in all city schools. Statues and monuments which conflict with the spirit of the people's democracy will be gradually removed, and reactionary street names will be changed. Four additional branch libraries will also be established in Greater Budapest.

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